

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Sunhee Lee on March 26, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1,

Line 7, delete "where" and insert -or-;

Line 9, insert -unsubstituted or substituted- before "amino".

Claim 9, line 2, delete "comprising" and insert -of-.

Claim 11, page 23, lines 4 and 5, delete "scopes" and insert -definition-.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not anticipate or render obvious the claimed azo compounds. The closest prior art compounds are found in JP 2002-278,056 and U.S. Patent 6,600,377, for example. These references disclose azo compounds which differ from those claimed in that a methyl group replaces the amino group in the 3-position of the pyrazole radical. There is no teaching in the prior art of the interchangeability of amino and methyl groups in similar azo compounds.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fiona T. Powers whose telephone number is 571-272-0702. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph K. McKane can be reached on 571-272-0699. The fax phone number for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Fiona T. Powers/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1626

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Primary Examiner
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March 27, 2008